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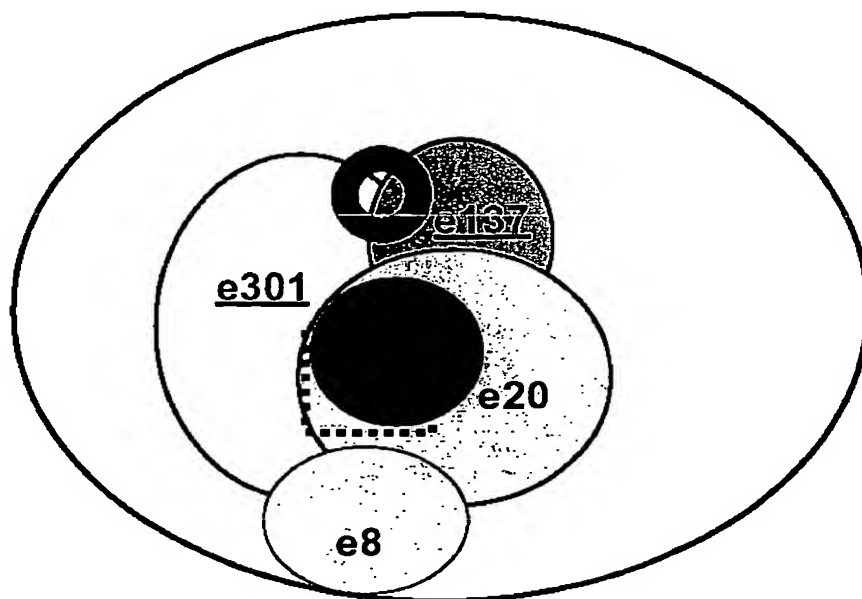
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For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: **HUMAN MONOCLONAL ANTIBODY FAB FRAGMENTS DIRECTED AGAINST HCV E2 GLYCOPROTEIN AND ENDOWED WITH IN VITRO NEUTRALIZING ACTIVITY**



(57) Abstract: The invention refers to a human antibody, or its functional fragments, directed against the HCV E2 glycoprotein, able to have a neutralizing activity in vivo; a composition for anti-HCV therapy comprising in a therapeutically effective amount the antibody; a composition for topical use in gel, creme, ointment and ovule formulations; the use of the antibody for validating anti-HCV vaccines.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No
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A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
IPC 7 C07K16/10 G01N33/576 C07K16/42

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

IPC 7 C07K G01N

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used)

EPO-Internal, BIOSIS, WPI Data, MEDLINE

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>WO 00 05266 A (CONNEX GES ZUR OPTIMIERUNG VON ;REITER CHRISTIAN (DE); DESGRANGES) 3 February 2000 (2000-02-03) "ANTI HEPATITIS C VIRUS ANTIBODY AND USES THEREOF " abstract page 4, line 11 - line 21 page 13, paragraph 1 claims 1-21</p> <p style="text-align: center;">---</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-/--</p>	1,4-11

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C.

☒ Patent family members are listed in annex.

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INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	<p>BURIONI ROBERTO ET AL: "Nonneutralizing human antibody fragments against hepatitis C virus E2 glycoprotein modulate neutralization of binding activity of human recombinant Fabs." VIROLOGY, vol. 288, no. 1, 15 September 2001 (2001-09-15), pages 29-35, XP002250414 ISSN: 0042-6822 abstract page 29, left-hand column, last line -page 30, paragraph 2; figure 1</p>	2,3
X	<p>ALLANDER T ET AL: "RECOMBINANT HUMAN MONOCLONAL ANTIBODIES AGAINST DIFFERENT CONFORMATIONAL EPITOPES OF THE E2 ENVELOPE GLYCOPROTEIN OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS THAT INHIBIT ITS INTERACTION WITH CD81" JOURNAL OF GENERAL VIROLOGY, SOCIETY FOR GENERAL MICROBIOLOGY, READING, GB, vol. 81, 2000, pages 2451-2459, XP002939743 ISSN: 0022-1317 page 2452, left-hand column, paragraph 3 - paragraph 4 page 2456, left-hand column, line 12 - line 28 page 2457, left-hand column, line 32 - line 42</p>	1
P,X	<p>WO 02 055560 A (EMERSON SUZANNE U ;ALTER HARVEY J (US); GOUVERNMENT OF THE UNITED) 18 July 2002 (2002-07-18) "MONOCLONAL ANTIBODIES SPECIFIC FOR THE E2 GLYCOPROTEIN OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS AND THEIR USE IN THE DIAGNOSIS, TREATMENT, AND PREVENTION OF HEPATITIS C " the whole document</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-/--</p>	1-11

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International Application No

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C.(Continuation) DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category *	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
A	<p>ROSA D ET AL: "A QUANTITATIVE TEST TO ESTIMATE NEUTRALIZING ANTIBODIES TO THE HEPATITIS C VIRUS: CYTOFLUORIMETRIC ASSESSMENT OF ENVELOPE GLYCOPROTEIN 2 BINDING TO TARGET CELLS"</p> <p>PROCEEDINGS OF THE NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES OF USA, NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE. WASHINGTON, US,</p> <p>vol. 93, no. 3, 1 March 1996 (1996-03-01), pages 1759-1763, XP000615446</p> <p>ISSN: 0027-8424</p> <p>abstract</p> <p>page 1759, right-hand column, paragraph 1 - paragraph 2</p> <p>page 1761, left-hand column, last paragraph -right-hand column, paragraph 2</p> <p>-----</p>	1-11

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Information on patent family members

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